



# The PLATFORM OF THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

adopted at the First National Convention  
of the America First Party held in Detroit, Michigan  
on the 29th and 30th of August, 1944



Candidate for President  
**GERALD L. K. SMITH**



Candidate for Vice-President  
**HARRY A. ROMER**

## *Preamble*

*The right to form a New Party is the right to devise ways and means to save the Republic. It fulfills the axiom: Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. It represents the escape which a free people must seek when threatened with betrayal and menaced by corruption. It represents the determination to maintain a sound economy, integrity in government, and a true nationalism. In pursuit of these ends, we, the assembled delegates of this political Convention, do therefore ordain and establish the AMERICA FIRST PARTY this 30th day of August, 1944, A. D., at Detroit, Michigan, and do accept and publish herewith the following set of principles as constituting the PLATFORM of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY:*



# America First Party Platform

**MONEY**—We must Constitutionalize our Money System. Take it out of the hands of the Federal Reserve Machine which serves the purpose of the International Bankers.

Adequate Constitutional Money will solve such economic problems as wages, home ownership, distribution of farm products, etc.

Basically money is but a vehicle for the exchange of goods. Like transportation vehicles used in the actual physical exchange of commodities, it should exist in adequate quantity to effect a complete exchange.

Broadly viewed, there are but three possible kinds of money:

**Security Money** with more goods in existence than there is money to exchange them with a situation which exists during a depression.

**Excess Money** with relatively more money in circulation than there are goods to exchange, which results in rising prices or inflation, such as we have today.

**Adequate or Commensurate Money** with just enough money in circulation to effect a full exchange of goods with prices steady.

Scarcity money and inflationary money are both unsound types of money. Adequate or commensurate money alone is sound.

The International Bankers, who devised and control our money system, are guilty of giving us unsound money. First they give us inflationary money to create a boom, during which citizens purchase property on mortgages. Then they give us a scarcity of money, resulting in millions being thrown out of employment, so that mortgages cannot be paid. Whereupon the bankers and their confederates have an opportunity to foreclose and seize the property and savings of millions of common people. Every depression in American history has been the result of the artificial reduction of the circulating medium below the required level done with the deliberate intent of milking the public of their savings. Financial manipulation ranks with war as one of the major causes of history and one of the prime causes of human misery.

Congress must reassert its power to control our money system as provided in the Constitution (Article I, Section 8) and cease delegating it to the International Bankers. The Federal Reserve System must be abolished.

Nothing but sound, commensurate money can save America from a violent postwar depression or a violent inflation, or both in succession.

"Certainly no nation ever before abandoned to the avarice and juggling of private individuals to regulate, according to their own interests, the quantum of circulating medium for the nation."  
—Thomas Jefferson

"... the circulating medium must be restored to the nation to whom it belongs."  
—Thomas Jefferson

The America First Party is the party of sound, commensurate, depression and inflation-proof money.

**WORKERS**—There must be jobs for everyone in peace as well as war.

Generous allowances for unemployed during the post war emergency.

A proper clean up of the money system with private enterprise properly encouraged should double the income of the average American worker.

Basically money and jobs can bear only three kinds of relationship:

A scarcity of money means a scarcity of jobs.

An excess of money means plenty of jobs but with prices soaring (inflation).

An amount of money commensurate with the productive power of the nation means jobs for all, with prices on an even keel.

The AMERICA FIRST PARTY pledges AN ABSOLUTE AND PERMANENT END TO UNEMPLOYMENT by instituting a system of sound COMMENSURATE money—money commensurate at all times with the productive power of the nation.

Respecting the issue of government dictatorship of labor, we condemn the freezing of wage rates and the binding of employees to jobs as unconstitutional.

We advocate a return to contractual agreements between employers and employees arrived at by collective bargaining and based on the merits of each case.

We advocate an annual income for workers.

**FARMERS**—Abundance is the watchword. An economy of production rather than destruction. Solve distribution problems by monetary reform and exports. Increased income for workers (see 2) increases consumption. A farm for every farmer!

The AMERICA FIRST PARTY advocates a clean break with the philosophy of scarcity. The abundant life must start with abundance. Abolish the AAA and OPA.

We advocate: (1) the more abundant domestic use of American farm crops by raising the income of the bottom third of our own population; and (2) the export of any price-depressing, peace-time surpluses that may remain by means of the Surplus Export Plan\* and already embodied in several bills pending in Congress.

The enactment of this plan will save the farmer from a tremendous postwar slump otherwise in prospect. It will guarantee the farmer as good a price for his products in peacetime as in wartime. It will end all regimentation of the American farmer, and will stop the AAA drain on the Federal Treasury.

We advocate the inclusion of labor costs in the parity formula. An honest parity should equal cost of production.

We oppose subsidies as an inadequate substitute for fair prices. We consider subsidies a device to buy present-day votes at the expense of future generations of taxpayers.

\*This plan is best expounded in a book entitled "The Way Out" by Ralph Borsano.

**VETERANS**—American money for American Veterans! Stop the foreign looting of our public treasury.

\$1,000 each for mustered-out veterans having served one year, with proportionate sums for those who have served more or less. Extensive program for education, rehabilitation and employment (see 2).

**Stop international hoodlugging.** We are spending on the South American alone enough to give a \$1,000 bonus to 6 million veterans.

Veterans should have the first chance to homestead land confiscated by the Federal Government after those who have suffered mortgage foreclosures have had an opportunity to repurchase.

**WAR**—Lying the boys home as soon as the war ends! Oppose all efforts to continue the war for the fulfillment of imperialistic ambitions. Prosecute the war to a conclusion strictly on an America First basis.

Stop the war as soon as our adversaries will agree to a peace based on American objectives. Not one American life to be lost to restore the British Empire or to bring in World Communism! Draw a line between American and foreign aims!

We pledge the American people to bring this war to an honorable AMERICAN CONCLUSION at the earliest possible moment, at the lowest possible cost.

Full support of the war UNTIL American objectives are won; immediate cessation of the war AS SOON AS American objectives are won! Only those interested in sacrificing American lives for subversive ends will object to this principle.

If a peace based on American principles could be had tomorrow, the sacrifice of thousands of American boys to restore the British Empire, or to bring in world communism, just to satisfy subversive elements in the United States, would be the greatest crime in history.

**PEACE**—Peace terms must be based on America First principles. No secret treaties! All agreements must be debated and confirmed by two-thirds of the Senate.

We note two kinds of peace: peace based on justice (permanent peace), and peace based on submission to injustice (impermanent peace). We advocate a peace of justice for all nations. To win a just peace is victory.

We note but three ways of settling international disputes after direct conciliation between disputants has failed: coercion, arbitration, and mediation. We oppose coercion because it means war. We waive arbitration (by a third party, as a World Court) because it too often leaves a ranking sense of injustice, because of biased arbitrators. We espouse mediation, because it depends on a peace-maker bringing both sides to a common point of view. Let the United States settle all its future disputes by mediation. Then let this preliminary settlement be subject to a two-thirds vote of the Senate for ratification as required by the Constitution.

**WAR GUILT**—Somebody started this war. Fearless investigations must determine the names of the conspirators at home and abroad who precipitated this awful slaughter. The truth must be known concerning the Kimmel and Short Pearl Harbor situation. The war-mongering enemies of our people must be identified wherever they are found, whether they be in New York, London, Berlin, Shanghai or Tokyo.

We advocate the Congressional investigation of the alleged exchange of several hundred secret cablegrams be-

tween Churchill and Roosevelt prior to Churchill's becoming Prime Minister and prior to America's entrance into the war, on which incident public attention has recently been focused by discussion in Congress and charges in Parliament.

**JEWS**—We must admit that there is a Jewish problem. It must be solved honestly, realistically, and courageously. We shall oppose prejudice and encourage the research necessary to the solution of this, the world's most unsolved problem.

Is it true that 95% of the founders of Communism were apostate Jews?

Is it true that the New Deal is heavily staffed with a certain type of Jewish bureaucrat?

Is it true that the movies and radio industries are largely in the hands of certain Jews?

Is it true that the policy of newspapers is directed or obstructed by the fact that the big department store advertisers are regularly 75% Jews?

Is it true that the Jews were awarded Palestine by Britain in return for their help in getting the United States into the First World War?

Are these things true, or have these accusations been made by superficial and prejudiced thinkers? Let us face these questions determined to be influenced only by unimpeachable facts!

The fact that a recent poll by the University of Denver showed two-thirds of the American people "anti-Semitic" reveals that the Jewish problem presses for an early, intelligent, and Christian solution.

**ALIEN "ISMS"**—True Americanism based on the America First principle will save our nation from the pagan and materialistic threat of (a) Communism and other forms of Marxism, (b) Fascism, and (c) Imperialism.

Political conspirators today flirt with all three of these negative philosophies. They have embraced much of Marxist philosophy while employing known Communists to operate government bureaus. New Deal bureaucracy has taken on much of the form of Fascist dictatorship. In permitting Britain to direct much of our foreign policy, we are in danger of being ensnared by the Imperialistic philosophy.

Let it be remembered that alien "isms" are mere substitutes for a true Christian Economy.

**REFUGEES**—Twenty million Refugees seek admission to America. This must not be permitted.

According to the admission of our State Department, 580,000 Refugees had been admitted to the United States up to January, 1944, mostly on temporary permits. These Refugees have swarmed into positions formerly held by American professional men now absent on account of the war and constitute a serious threat of postwar unemployment for native Americans.

We condemn the proposal of certain Communist-influenced organizations that not only should the Refugees in the United States on temporary permits be permitted to remain instead of returning to their homelands, but that UNRESTRICTED IMMIGRATION into the United States be permitted after the war. Such a policy would be ruinous and has no moral or economic justification.

If there are hungry to be fed abroad, let the spirit of Christ stimulate us to export our surpluses instead of de-



straying them. It is not necessary or desirable that Refugees be brought to America to be fed.

## Fellow Patriots:

AMERICA FIRST has become the battle cry of the hour. Those of us who believe in Nationalism and the preservation of America's independence must realize as never before that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Foreign politicians have flooded our National Capitol. The public treasury is being looted by aliens in co-operation with political traitors. International conspirators and financiers have corrupted our officials and seized control of the press and the radio. Millions of our people are unaware of the fact that we are about to be led into a World Super State in which the tyrants, politicians and rulers of foreign countries will actually have life-and-death power over our very lives.

By the use of a world police force, operating under the authority of this Super State, our children in the Armed Services can be sent to their death on the field of battle without the consent of the Congress of the United States.

We are on the very verge of being so trapped by these world conspirators and their international schemes that all trade barriers will be removed. Immigration restrictions will be withdrawn. Refugees will flood our Nation, and the cheap merchandise produced by slave labor on foreign soil will crucify our workers and farmers on a cross of gold and reduce them to peons and peasants.

As a candidate for President of the United States, mine is the task of the crusader, the pioneer, the trail blazer. I accept this responsibility—I bear this cross in faith.

Through the use of this Platform, and the literature which will be built up around it in the form of books, pamphlets and brochures, we must organize America—we must build a new militant dynamic party, prepared for anything that is necessary to save our Nation and to revive Nationalism.

Our order of growth should be as follows: 1944—The period of preparation. 1946—A victorious year.

1948—We shall, with the help of God, elect a majority of Congress and the President of the United States.

To this we pledge our fortunes and our lives.

For God and Country,

*Harold L. K. Smith*

**SOVEREIGNTY**—A Constitutional government in Washington must not be superseded by any foreign power or combination of powers.

No World Government! No Super-State! No International Police Force! No Foreign Entanglements!

No World Government or Super-State, because that would mean the end of American freedom. No International Police Force, because that would keep American boys

permanently abroad pulling other nations' chestnuts out of the fire. No Foreign Entanglements. Washington and Jefferson who opposed foreign entanglements knew better than today's scheming internationalists.

**INTERNATIONAL BANKING**—No International Bank!

We denounce the effort to siphon American Wealth to the four corners of the earth—in a species of a permanent lend-lease—by the device of financial juggling.

We demand that the Treasury Department cease the buying of foreign gold and silver for monetary purposes at any price.

**REGIONAL NON-INTERFERENCE**—The Monroe Doctrine must remain sacred. America for the Americans!

We advocate the world-wide adoption of the principle of regional non-interferences first enunciated in our own Monroe Doctrine.

"Our first and fundamental maxim should be, never to entangle ourselves in the affairs of Europe. Our second, never suffer Europe to intermeddle with cis-Atlantic affairs."

—Thomas Jefferson

**FOREIGN POLICY**—Let our relationships to other nations be developed through the treaty-making process provided for in the Constitution.

The opportunity for secret diplomacy inherent in one-man control of foreign affairs enables an Executive to maneuver a nation into a situation where the legislative body, deprived of knowledge of the causes of international tension, can be forced into a declaration of war, even though national sentiment may be overwhelmingly in favor of peace.

**TAXES**—No federal income tax on incomes less than \$5,000.

The average family income in America today would be \$5,000 if the New Deal did not take so much in taxes. We believe that only incomes above the average should be taxed by the Federal Government. Start Federal taxes at the \$5,000 income level instead of at the \$500.00 level.

**NEGROES**—The AMERICA FIRST PARTY advocates the Abraham Lincoln Plan of solving the Negro problem—a homeland in Africa.

Noting that 20,000 part-Negroes become recognized as whites annually. And noting also that it will be harder to solve the problem of 40,000,000 Negroes in our midst in the future than of 13,000,000 today, and believing that it is unfair to both races to have to live together, we advocate a return to the solution long ago proposed by Thomas Jefferson and successively advocated by many other Presidents, including Madison, Monroe, Grant and especially Abraham Lincoln in his Emancipation Proclamation; namely, implementing the Negroes' right to return to the homeland and environment in which nature first nurtured them.

We condemn the original bringing of the Negroes to America as a crime in which Northern shipping interest shared equally with Southern planters, and believe that the vast thinly-populated continent of Africa contains abundant room for a Negro Republic of the type founded in Liberia by forward-looking Americans more than a century ago.

We believe that a generous homesteading of the Negro in such a program by Uncle Sam even to the point of giving them their pro-rata share of the national wealth, will

be a legitimate expiation for the sin of bringing them over here in the first place. We believe that the geographical segregation of races planned by nature is a far happier arrangement than the social segregation enforced by man. We are confident that with the skills acquired during their 300-year sojourn in America, the Negro race, with its greater capacity for life in the tropics, will be able to play an important part in the development of a fabulously wealthy continent. We believe that their re-settlement can be handled with less hardship than was endured by most European pioneers in the United States. We are confident that in a country of their own with a Negro President and a Negro Congress, the Negro race will have an opportunity to rise to new heights of happiness and self-respect.

Adequate territory for such a Negro Republic, probably 1,000,000 square miles, should be secured from Britain in exchange for unpaid war debts and lend-lease.

Over two million Negroes have already signed a petition asking for an opportunity to establish and migrate to a Negro homeland.

**MONOPOLY**—Outlaw Monopoly!

Monopolies are created for the sole purpose of destroying independent competition and seizing unwarranted profits. The health of a nation's economy is in inverse proportion to the extent to which monopolies are allowed to exist. The state itself must not be allowed to become one gigantic monopoly, as under state capitalism or state socialism.

**SMALL BUSINESS**—Guarantee preservation of the independent businessman by courageous enforcement of existing laws against monopoly, by repealing bureaucratic edicts, and by cleaning up the corrupt money system.

**PRIVATE ENTERPRISE**—The dignity of an individual human soul is a Christian principle. Independent enterprise springs from this principle. It must be preserved by safeguarding our people at all times against the anti-Christian threats of enslavement, class consciousness, and Marxist regimentation. Let the Spirit of Christ prevail in our business relationships.

**OLD AGE**—Let old age pensions be adjusted to meet increased living costs. Less money for international politics, more for old age.

**FAMILY HEALTH**—The American family, as pertains to its own personal health, must remain sovereign in the determination of who shall cross its threshold to share its personal health problems. So-called socialized medicine would make of the family Doctor a word politician answerable to his bureaucratic chief, rather than to the true needs of the American family.

Public health measures are made necessary by problems common to the whole community. Institutions and bureaus of public health must confine their activities to those enterprises which affect the whole community, but they must never violate the sanctity and privacy of the American family. Charity in health measures must be looked upon as an emergency substitute for a wholesome, sound economy.

The way to give our people good medical care is to give them good incomes.

**REGIMENTATION**—End the tendency to number, file, and index our citizenry. Fight all attempts at universal conscription of men and women to fulfill the bureaucratic ambitions of potential tyrants.

More than 150 alphabetical agencies reach their tentacles into every phase of our daily lives. Federal civilian employees have been increased from 500,000 in 1932 to 3,500,000 today.

We advocate a return to the great principle that "the best government is that which governs least."

Enormous tax savings can be made by banishing bureaucracy. Federal employees can get better jobs in private industry. The solution of our problems makes bureaucracy unnecessary.

We reaffirm the importance of States' Rights as essential to the preservation of our liberties against the encroachment of would-be dictatorship.

**CONSTITUTION**—The Constitution must be defended and preserved. Upon it we must depend for our blue print of liberty. Subversive and alien enemies of America always strike first at the Constitution.

Inasmuch as the interpretation of the Constitution rests with the Supreme Court, we must lift higher the standards by which Supreme Court Justices are chosen.

**FREE SPEECH**—Free speech is the foundation of true freedom. Upon it we must depend in the development and expansion of a New Party. Vested interests and entrenched bureaucrats will attempt to deny us this freedom. We must defend it to the death.

Free speech and its companion freedoms, free press, freedom of assembly, and freedom of worship must be so much a part of our very existence that we will be willing, if need be, to die for their preservation.

We condemn the campaign of smear by certain journalistic prostitutes against all who raise their voices against the subversion of American Institutions.

We condemn the persecution on charges of "sedition" of persons who have merely exercised their Constitutional right of free speech.

We deplore the technique of calling every American Nationalist a "Fascist," despite the fact that every great American statesman of history was a Nationalist.

We pledge the nation a return to Constitutional liberties with an equal opportunity for all groups to present their case for the verdict of public opinion.

**INTEGRITY**—The word politics has come into ill-repute. Too frequently it has been assumed that politics is the call of the scoundrel. This situation must be reversed. The affairs of state should challenge men of the highest integrity, and of the most sterling Christian character. Honesty and integrity must prevail in government.

Noting that this Republic was founded by the President who could not tell a lie and is being wrecked by an administration which cannot tell the truth, we pledge the American people a restoration of traditional American honesty and sincerity in the conduct of public affairs.

**TERM OF PRESIDENT**—No President should be permitted to serve more than eight years.

Inasmuch as the long continuation of the same person in the Presidency represents not merely an unjustifiable extension of executive power, but the absorption of legislative power by the executive through the power of patronage and the dominance of the judiciary by the executive through the undue continuation of the power of appointment, thus destroying the system of checks and balances planned by



## *Officers of the Convention*

CARL H. MOTE, Indianapolis	- - - -	Chairman
DON LOHBECK, St. Louis	- - - -	Secretary
RENATA LE GANT, Detroit	- -	Recording Secretary



The Platform was presented and read to the Convention by Ralph Baerman, Washington, D. C., Chairman of the Platform Research Committee.



For additional copies of this platform, around which the literature of the America First Party is to be built, address your request to:  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY, P. O. BOX 459, DETROIT, MICHIGAN.  
The price is 25c per copy.